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INJURING 31, MOSTLY AMERICANS

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FRANKFURT -(DJ)--A CAR BOMB EXPLODED SUNDAY OUTSIDE A BUSY U.S. MILITARY SHOPPING CENTER, INJURING 31 PEOPLE, MOST OF THEM AMERICANS, AND DESTROYING 42 CARS, A U.S. ARMY SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BLAST CAME AT 3:20 P.M. IN THE STORE'S PARKING LOT, BREAKING WINDOWS AND BLOWING A HOLE IN A NEARBY BUILDING.

WEST GERMAN POLICE SAID THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE CLAIM OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EXPLOSION.

THE BOMB BLAST WAS THE LATEST IN A SERIES OF ATTACKS AGAINST U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES IN WEST GERMANY.

BILL SWISHER, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE U.S. ARMY'S 97TH GENERAL HOSPITAL, SAID 30 PEOPLE WERE TREATED AT THE HOSPITAL, BUT 24 PEOPLE WERE RELEASED BY EARLY EVENING.

"ALL BUT TWO OF (THOSE TREATED) WERE AMERICANS," SWISHER SAID. "NONE OF THE INJURIES APPEAR TO BE LIFE-THREATENING."

OFFICIALS SAID THE BOMB WAS PACKED IN A SEDAN CARRYING WEST GERMAN LICENSE PLATES. THEY SAID WEST GERMAN POLICE LAUNCHED AN INVESTIGATION.

THE CAR WAS PARKED IN A LOT BEHIND THE MILITARY SHOPPING CENTER, WHICH IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, ACCORDING TO MILITARY SPOKESMEN. ONLY AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR DEPENDENTS ARE ALLOWED INTO THE STORE.

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-(DJ-11-24-85 2325GMT)

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